



Tempe Municipal Court

2017 State of the Court Executive Summary



On July 18, 2016, I was appointed Presiding Judge of the Tempe Municipal Court and it is my honor to present this Executive Summary. Thanks to an outstanding team of dedicated Judges, Commissioners, and staff, the Court continues to serve the public with the highest level of professionalism. Although the Court is a separate and independent branch of government, we routinely partner with city departments and external agencies to deliver fair and impartial justice and excellent service. Examples of this can be seen with the Court's leadership in Regional Homeless Court, Regional Veterans' Court, and Mental Health Court. These innovative programs hold individuals legally responsible while reducing recidivist behavior by connecting people with needed services and treatment. Such collaborative efforts benefit the community and will continue to be a vital element in maintaining a judicial branch that earns the utmost trust and confidence from the public we serve.

Mission

The Tempe Municipal Court is committed to providing the community with an independent judiciary, which serves the public by the fair and impartial administration of justice resulting in the enhancement of public trust and confidence in our court system.

Kevin Kane
Presiding Judge

FAST FACTS

- ⇒ Tempe Municipal Court is one of 172 limited jurisdiction courts in Arizona and is the fifth largest Municipal Court in the State in terms of case volume.
- ⇒ The Court has the highest case-to-personnel ratio and second highest revenue-to-expenditure ratio of the largest Municipal Courts in Maricopa County.
- ⇒ The Court has three Judges, two Commissioners and 34 staff.

» 2016 Operational Efficiencies & Accomplishments «

- Cost-per-Case — \$54.49, second lowest of the largest Municipal Courts in Maricopa County.
- For every \$1 expended on Court operations, \$2.40 in revenue from imposed fines and fees was collected in FY15/16.
- Collected \$199,208 in fines, fees, & victim restitution through the Administrative Office of the Courts' Tax Intercept Program.
- Clearance Rate—102 percent, measured as the number of cases disposed compared to filed in FY15/16.
- Collaborated with other municipalities & stakeholders to establish the East Valley Regional Veterans' Court, funded in part by the AZ Dept. of Veterans' Services as made available through the AZ Veterans' Donations Fund; weekly dockets held in Tempe since July 2016.
- Began using Dept. of Public Safety interface to enter criminal dispositions into the AZ Criminal Justice Information System.
- Completed Capital Improvement Projects to improve public service & preserve City assets by revitalizing the Court facility.
- Enhanced online access for mobile devices.
- Upgraded Court calendar display system to improve access to information.

» Fostering Education; Learning; Improving Public Access «

- Partner with Tempe Social Services' Kid Zone for Law Day.
- Host Tempe Leadership Government Issues Day.
- Participate in Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission's Youth Town Hall, and Mayor and Council's Underage Drinking Forum.
- Judges and management develop curriculum and serve as faculty for judges and court personnel statewide.

» Community Outreach & Partnerships «

- Partner with Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care to provide Mental Health Court. In its 13th year, served 185 individuals.
- Partner with U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Tempe Human Services, and other stakeholders to provide Veterans' Court. In its 2nd year, served 315 veterans with Tempe cases.
- Partner with 48 courts in Maricopa County Regional Homeless Court, which served 207 homeless individuals in 2016.
- Partner with Tempe Community Services to support the Adopt-A-Senior Program.
- Continue to collaborate with Mesa Municipal Court on Case Management System enhancements.
- Participate in local, regional and statewide community and court improvement efforts, including:
 - ◇ AZ Supreme Court Fair Justice for All Task Force
 - ◇ AZ Supreme Court Interpreter Program Advisory Committee
 - ◇ AZ Supreme Court Judicial Staff Education Committee
 - ◇ Tempe Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking & Drug Use

» Looking Forward to 2018 «

- Create a Court Strategic Plan that aligns with the AZ Supreme Court Strategic Agenda and City of Tempe Strategic Priorities.
- Continue implementation of AZ Fair Justice Task Force recommendations, including establishing a Compliance Assistance Program for past fines/fees.
- Implement Court Security Standards, as adopted by the AZ Supreme Court.
- Continue to improve methods used to collect/report data used to measure and manage operational performance.

Charges and Petitions Filed - FY 15/16, FY 14/15 and FY 13/14

Charge Types	FY 15/16 Charges	% of Total	FY 14/15 Charges	% of Total	FY 13/14 Charges	% of Total
Criminal Traffic and Misdemeanors	16,849	24%	18,621	30%	19,417	29%
Civil Traffic	21,202	31%	23,140	37%	22,322	34%
Parking	29,337	43%	18,398	30%	22,258	34%
Local Ordinances	849	1%	1,164	2%	1,005	2%
Total Protective Order Petitions Filed	891	1%	821	1%	910	1%
Total	69,128		62,144		65,912	

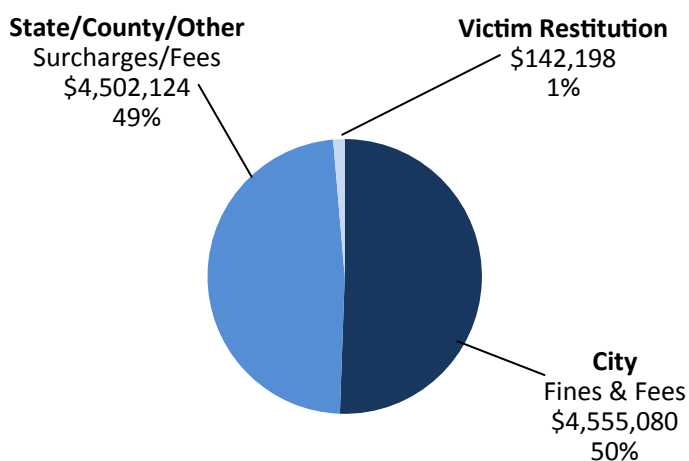
Customer Service - FY 15/16, FY 14/15 and FY 13/14

Measurement	FY 15/16	FY 14/15	FY 13/14
Court Visitors Screened through Security	138,355	131,985*	136,087
Individuals Served at Public Window	48,687	57,876	55,536
Payments by Phone (IVR)	13,804	15,401	15,519
Payments by Website (IWR)	30,665	23,602	21,483
Mail Payments Processed	12,514	7,358	9,410
Correspondence Received/Filings Processed	28,840	30,130	26,986

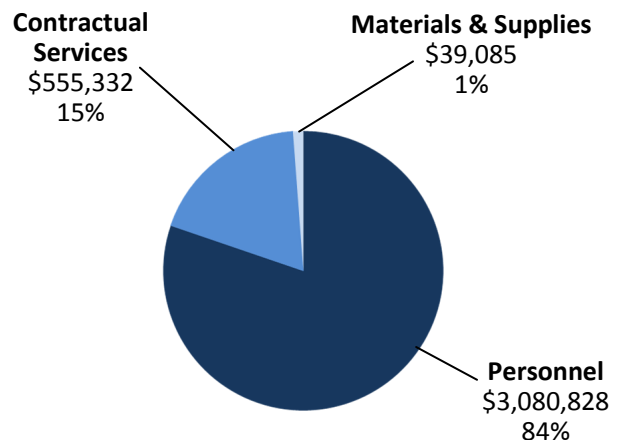
*Calendar year 2015.

FY15/16 Financial Information

Total monies collected by the Court in Fiscal Year 15/16 was \$9,199,402. Tempe Municipal Court operating budget from City general fund for Fiscal Year 15/16 was \$3,675,245 (excludes City Internal Services budget).



Revenue: What the Court Collects



Expenditures: What the City Budgets for Court Operations

Sources: Administrative Office of the Courts' Case Activity Report FY2015/16; Administrative Office of the Courts' Quarterly Revenue Survey FY2015/16; Tempe Municipal Court Monthly Workload Indicators from Case Management System; PeopleSoft Financials.